

The Aiteal Trust

Trustees' Annual Report

12th January 2024 - 11th January 2025



Charity contact information

The Aiteal Trust

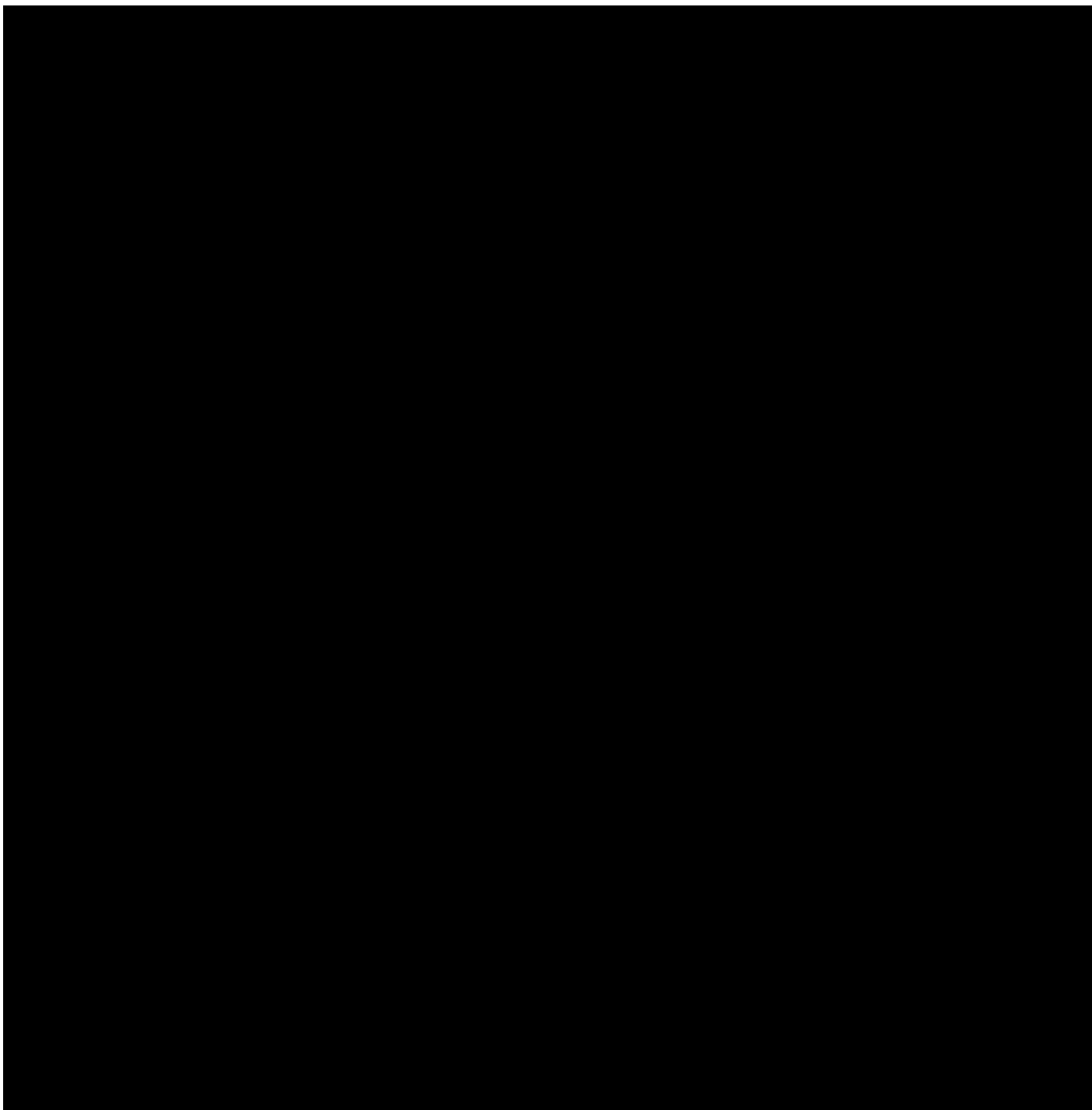
Scottish Charity Number: SC050669

Address

Postcode



Charity Trustees



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Objectives and activities

Our charity was set up to support people, predominantly adults, with profound and multiple learning disabilities, their families and carers.

Our purposes are:

to advance health, community development, and provide relief primarily to adults in need by reason of severe, complex and profound multiple learning disabilities, autistic spectrum disorder and/or global developmental delay who are in need of support to lead fulfilling lives, and to those ends, to provide benefit and support to their families and those who care for them.

Our four working themes are:

- building community for mutual support for all the following: people with PMLD, their family members, their carers, their supporters in community
- arranging appropriate activities in suitable surroundings
- raising the profile in a positive way of people with PMLD, who can be overlooked as a minority group, seeking to transform perceptions of people with PMLD, within a Human Rights approach
- advocating for people within this group, in the following ways: on behalf of the whole group, and groups within it, particular families and individuals

Who we are

Within the Trustee body, our Patrons and community networks, we have a great deal of experience of living with PMLD and autistic spectrum disorder. We have first hand knowledge of the harmful effects on individuals and families of negotiating the care system, from childhood into adulthood and onwards. We also know how harmful the effects of poor care can be.

We also know first-hand what is helpful. We seek to share good practice with people in the groups listed below.

We seek to share our knowledge with:

- parents, families and their advocates, including the press
- the statutory sector, including Scottish Government, advisory and regulatory bodies, health boards, HSCPs
- academics
- Human Rights groups
- third sector organisations.

“As a Trustee who has lived with a sibling with PMLD almost all my life, I am very aware of the benefits an organisation like the Aiteal Trust can provide to such families. It can offer both moral & practical support & be a voice for the PMLD community.”





These were our main activities during the year:

- Research: continuing the research we published in 2023, that brings people together including PMLD, family, wider community
- Hospitality, bringing people together, intentionally creating community, sharing information, with people with PMLD, families, professionals
- Advocating, based on the 'proof of concept' of quality care from our research, based on 'low arousal', trauma-informed, good communication; sharing this information with families and professionals. We did this with a view to bringing about change which from first hand experience we understood to be necessary, backed by Scottish Government's own policies on care in community rather than detention in hospital, in their 'Coming Home' work.
- Profile-raising - seeking to show people with PMLD as people with human rights, citizens, emphasising their capacity, enjoying relationships and interests. We seek to change public perception of people with PMLD.
- Housekeeping: development of trustee body, relationships, report writing for OSCR; development and upkeep of a website



Trustee writes:

As a long standing Trustee I have first hand experience of watching  and the community grow over time.

The work of the Trust in creating the framework to support both  and the wider community has seen understanding, patience, and collaboration grow and develop. This has resulted in a community that is creative, empathetic and growing stronger.

██████ involvement in meaningful engagement in the community fosters a sense of empowerment for him but it also sends a message of hope to other families who visit Appletree as well.

Watchin ██████ onfidence develop as he supports a community to grow is powerful and inspiring. He demonstrates just how resilient he is and highlights all the benefits of inclusivity and belonging in the community.

██████ is a leader in his own right, through the work of the trust ██████ is seen as an active contributor and change-maker as opposed to a passive recipient of help.

Structure, governance and management

We are governed by a Constitution which we adopted in January 2021 after legal advice from a firm of solicitors specialising in Charity law.

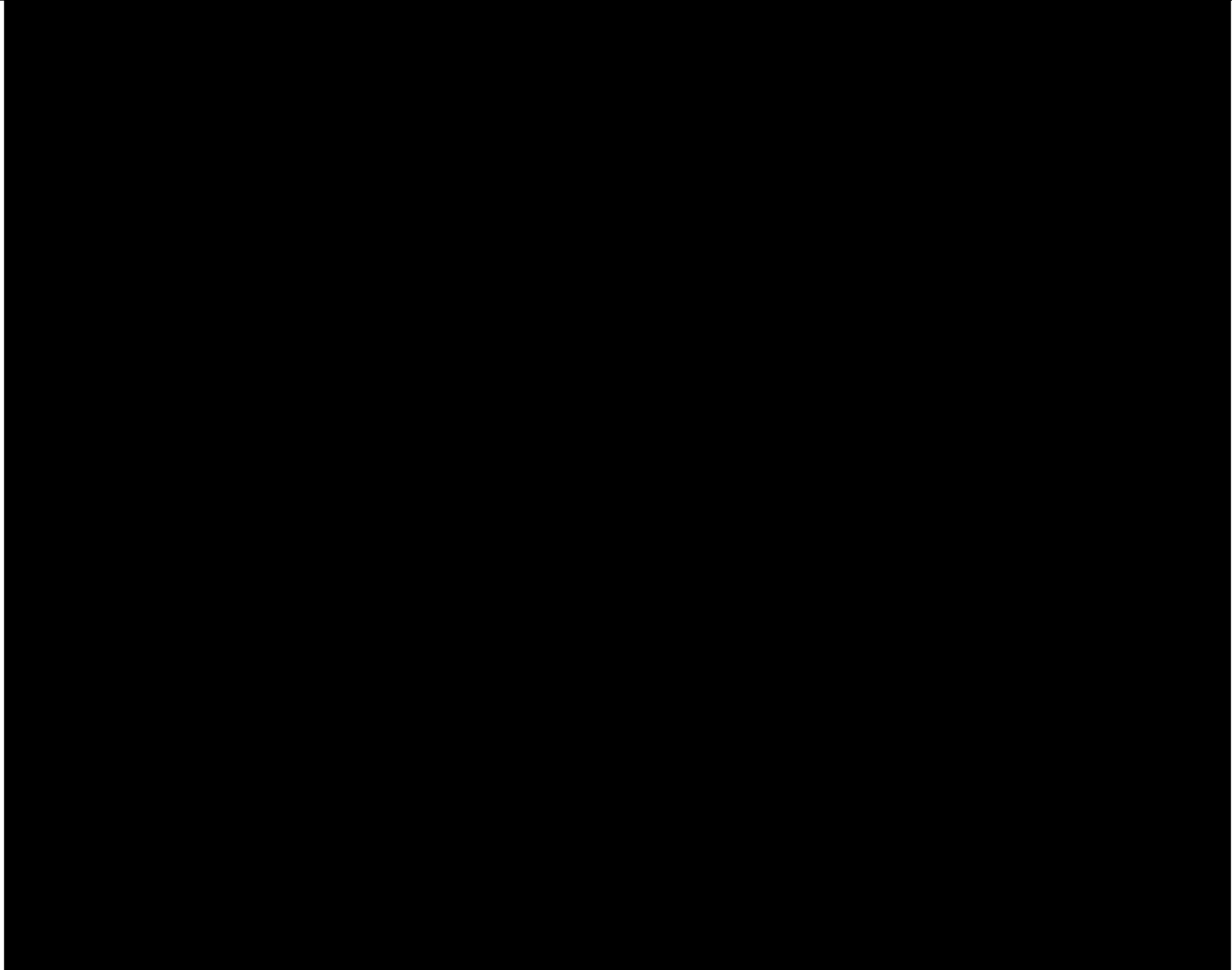
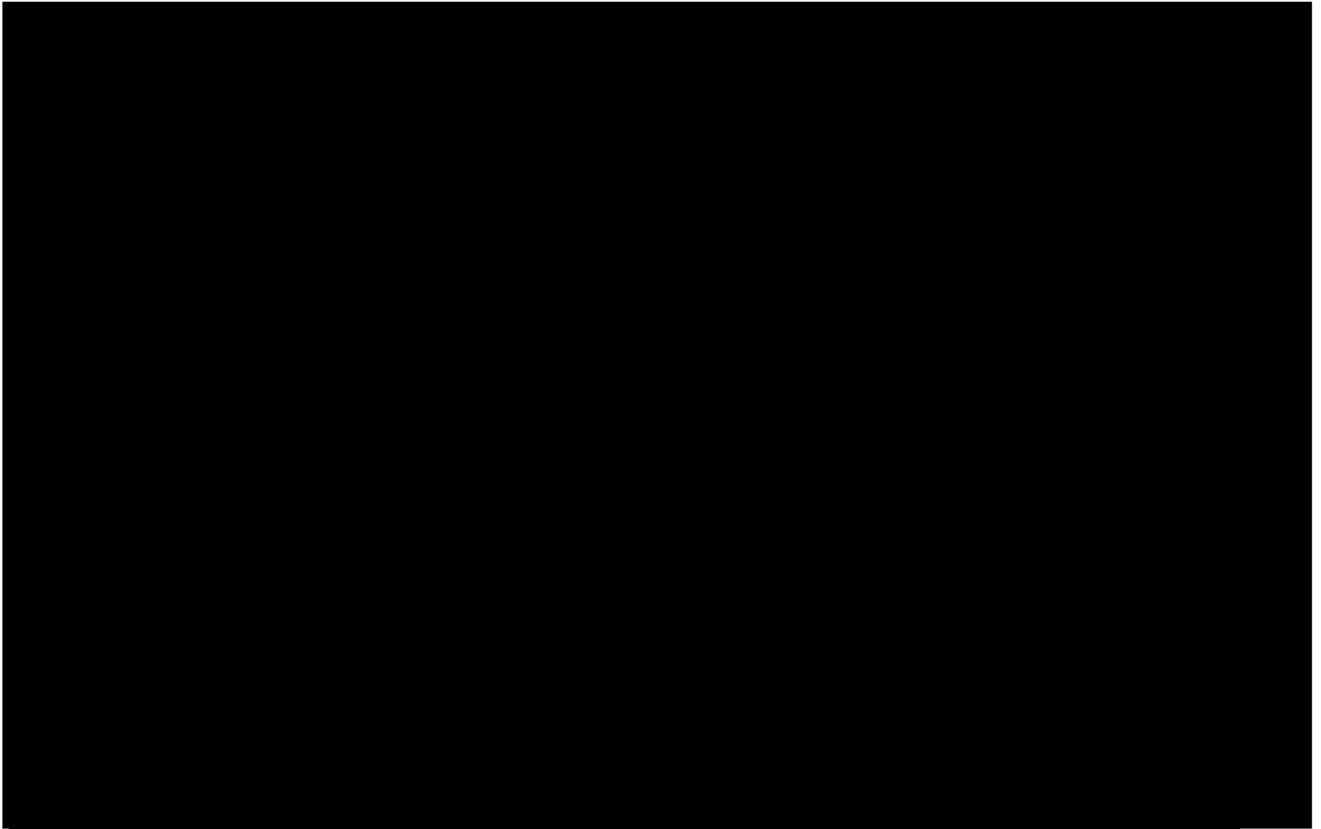
We are a SCIO, a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Our Trustee body has remained stable throughout the year. In a year of consolidation, we have made new relationships with a widening network of community and family connections, giving us scope for future recruitment should that become necessary.

Achievements and performance

This is a summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period.

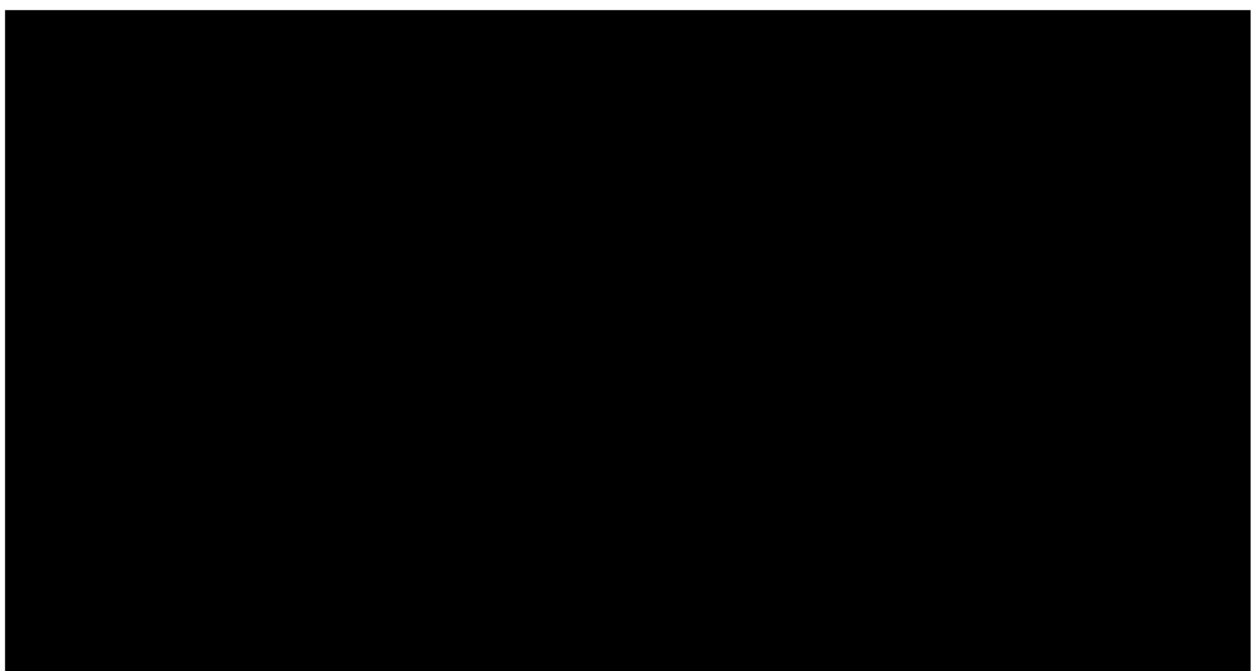


Hospitality

This is by invitation of [REDACTED] who offers his home as a venue. We organised outside catering and an outside professional musician to provide music and community singing. Guests at the party included our Patro [REDACTED] with her mother and carer; two more ladies with PMLD who are wheelchair users, with family acting as carers; families, community supporters, Trustees.



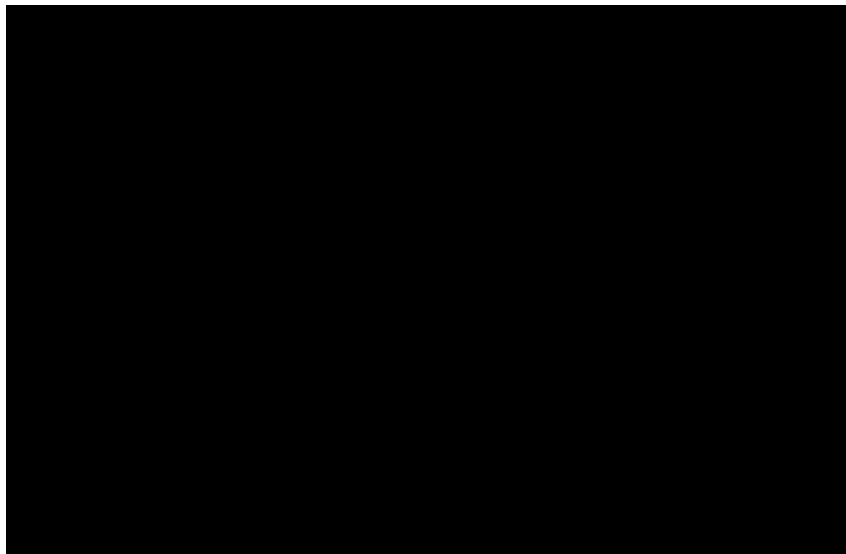
[REDACTED] enjoys planning for parties, he and other visitors were pleased to meet each other, they enjoyed the event, the singing. They have few other opportunities to meet in a peer group. Out of this event grew relationships, other opportunities to meet.



Parents enjoyed an opportunity to meet with others to discuss what their hopes and concerns are. They are supported in a safe space where others understand the issues they face. They are supported by our Trustee [REDACTED] who is Arts Director for PAMIS, and [REDACTED] Chief Officer of PAMIS. Parents have few opportunities in a community in this way.

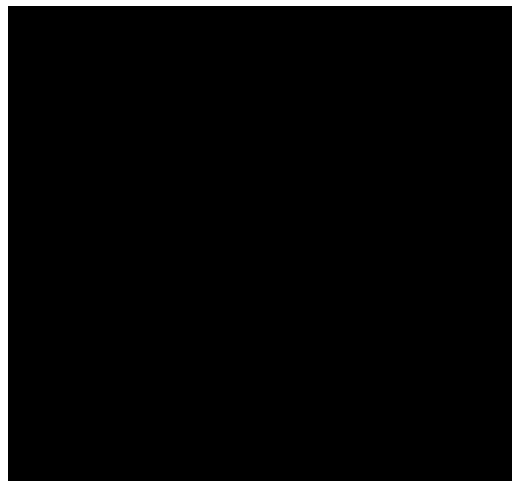
There were many community supporters, who recognise and praise the skills of the carers, benefitting them from public acknowledgement.

By engaging with our neighbours we establish positive views of PMLD.

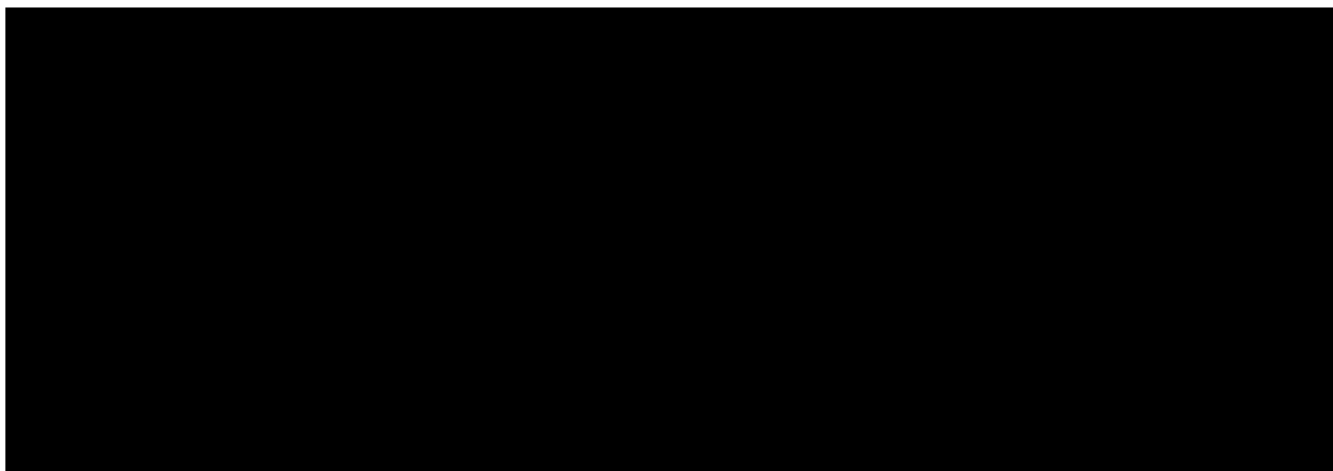


Visits to Appletree

Our Patron, [REDACTED] came for tea. His presence affirms for staff the importance and value of their work. His support for the charity affirms the importance of people with PMLD, their families and us as a Trustee body. By informing him of what we do he is informed to speak about it more widely.



There were other visitors from community and faith groups. They learned about us first hand, we share our 'proof of concept' of a gentle way of caring for people with PMLD who have been detained in hospital, and now are living well in community. They now can share a positive story about people with PMLD

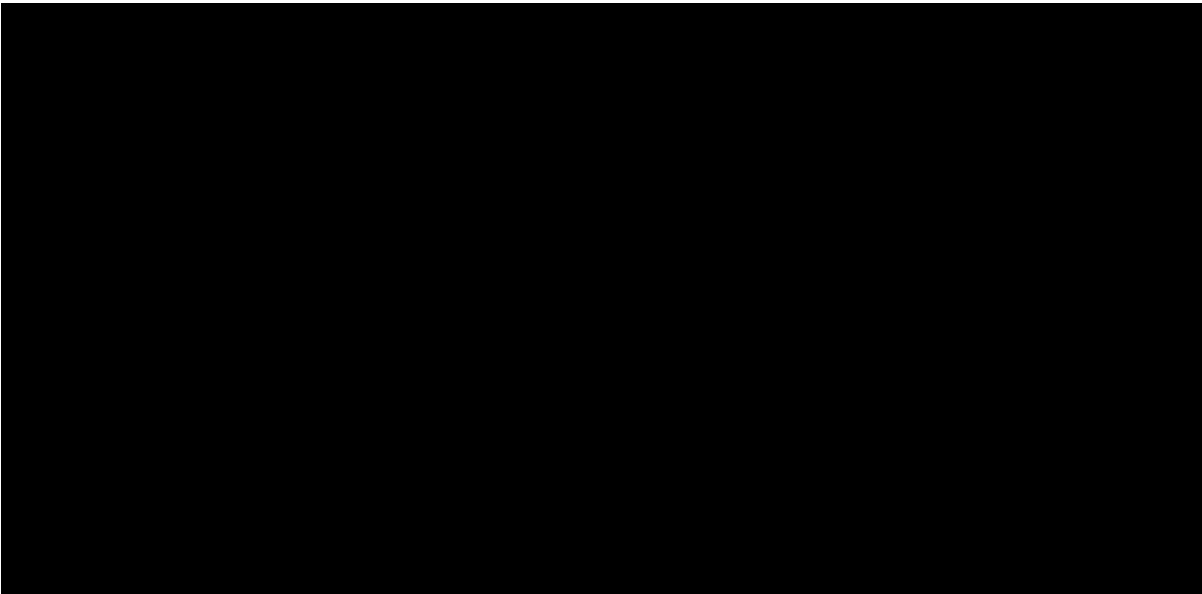


Advocating

Our events offer encounters with our Chair [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Creative Director at PAMIS for family members /parents / community supporters to follow up. When they have sought one-to-one support, [REDACTED] have provided this, [REDACTED] as a fellow parent [REDACTED] as Director of PAMIS. [REDACTED] where appropriate, signposts people towards organisations with appropriate resources including PAMIS, Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities.

[REDACTED] as been involved in Scottish Government's *Coming Home* work stream since 2018. This is to do with the detention of people with learning disabilities in hospital or private sector Assessment and Treatment Units, seeking to fulfil their human rights by moving them into appropriate community settings.

[REDACTED] represented parents' voices of lived experience in NHS Tayside's Redesign of Learning Disability Services at the V&A Museum, Dundee in March 2024.



██████████ speaks in her own voice, from her own and her son's experience of detention in hospital and as Chair of the charity.

██████████ represents more widely, the experiences of people with PMLD, their families and carers in forums where the majority of people speak as professionals. ██████████ seeks to focus attention on the people with Learning Disabilities at the heart of the issue and their families.

██████████ points to the 'proof of concept' that is Appletree Community, as described in the Aiteal Trust's research. She offers hospitality to professional colleagues to 'come and see'. She offers 'good news' stories about people with PMLD as opposed to the 'problem paradigm'.

Profile-raising

Throughout 2024, the Trustees sought to raise the profile of the 'proof of concept', the model of care, at the heart of the research report. They decided on three means of raising the profile:

- To explore the commissioning of a film to take the impact of our story to a wider audience

- To plan a community outing to Iona Abbey for 2025, for people with PMLD, their families, carers and supporters
- To exhibit the research [REDACTED] Story: the Story of Appletree' in Scottish Parliament, to raise awareness with MSPs and Ministers of detention and harming of people with PMLD in hospitals. This would be done to bring the 'Coming Home' work stream to wider awareness amongst MSPs, along with issues about Human Rights for this minority group. The intention was to display the findings of our research in professional graphics, produced by our partners in Edinburgh Napier University.

Outcomes of our work

The Aiteal Trust has established a strong link with PAMIS, the national charity that supports people with PMLD. [REDACTED] Director of Creative Arts at PAMIS, is one of our trust [REDACTED] namic link between the two charities. Relationships, communities, networks are what we seek to establish.

The Aiteal Trust has established a visible profile in national circles about its concern for people with PMLD, their families and carers, Human Rights and alternatives to detention. TV and Radio broadcasts are advertising we exist and our values.

People with PMLD and their families and carers are getting to hear about us and some have experience of visiting us. We have established a network of connections that extends beyond our immediate area. We offer hospitality that benefits others and we benefit from connections we make.

Impacts

Our socialising events creates a network of connections amongst people with PMLD, who come to know each other and to make rela-

tionships. Some then meeting on other occasions. Several of them are members of advisory groups to Scottish Government. By coming together, they make connections between different work streams, that are otherwise not joined up, they share contacts and information.

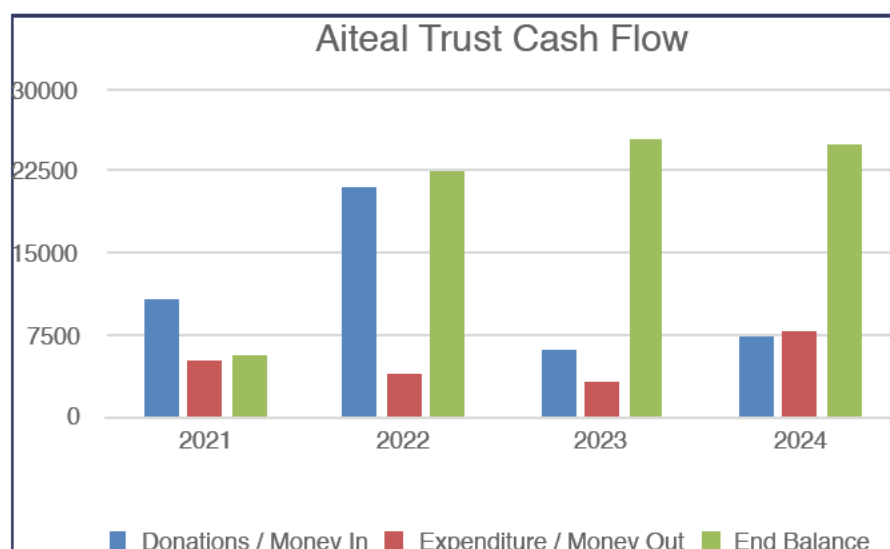
[REDACTED], Trustee, provided a useful anecdote. He was speaking to a Mum who had not visited Appletree before. She said to him “this is exactly the set-up that could work for x “ (her daughter.) She wasn’t meaning the building, she meant the Model of Care we can demonstrate, the importance of understanding the person cared-for and their needs, reducing their stress, enabling them to live well.

Later, this mother, having seen for herself, the model of ‘low-arousal’, trauma-informed care with an emphasis on communication, that met the needs of the person cared for, was inspired to seek something similar for her daughter. She had ‘proof of concept’ to share with her social worker and other statutory sector partners to propose changes to benefit her daughter’s care.

Volunteers

We are grateful to all who support the Aiteal Trust: our Patrons, Trustees, community friends, our Funders, our neighbours. We are also grateful to the volunteers from PAMIS who bring the mobile changing toilet to our events.

Financial review



Income

The Aiteal Trust has benefited from generous donations since its inception with significant contributions from the Dinning Trust [REDACTED] and numerous other friends and supporters – both individuals and groups.

Expenditure

As described elsewhere in this report, the Aiteal Trust continues to spend money on various activities in pursuit of its aims. Expenditure has been higher this year with additional activities including initial spending for the trip to Iona, which the Trust supported and the Scottish Parliament event (beyond this reporting period, February 2025) at which the Trust provided catering and covered other minor expenses.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Whilst The Aiteal Trust does not have a formal policy on reserves, the trustees aim to maintain sufficient funds to enable ongoing activities in pursuit of its aims. At the same time the trustees recognize that generous donations were provided on the assumption that they would be

spent and not simply kept in a bank account, hence the willingness to increase our outgoings over the last period. The Aiteal Trust currently has a healthy balance.

Donated facilities and services

Our facilities for our community meetings are donated without charge by a man with PMLD, whose home has suitable, safe, indoor and outdoor community space alongside his own accommodation. His mother and Deputy is our Chair.

Our Chair works without payment on our advocacy services, research and profile-raising. All our Trustees give their time by donation. We are grateful to them for this.

Future plans

Our plans for the year 12th January 2025 - 11th January 2026:

Research

Continuing our collaborative research. This is with people with PMLD, their families and carers, the charity PAMIS, the University of Portsmouth and Edinburgh Napier. It is based on the 'proof of concept' established in our research published in 2023 'Louis's Story: the Story of Appletree' www.theaitealtrust.com/resesarch

Hospitality

Continuing to hold parties at Appletree Community to gather people.

Profile-raising

Continuing work with film maker Land and Sky Media, to develop a film for release. This shows positive images of a man with PMLD within his network of carers, family and community, living well. This is the visual story showing the 'proof of concept' that emerged from our research. There are four perceived audiences: people with PMLD; their families and friends and carers; policy makers and professionals; the general public (there is potential overlap). In all cases we seek to

transform public perceptions, by showing our lead character in positive terms, as a person first, a leader within his community, a political figure, a change-maker.

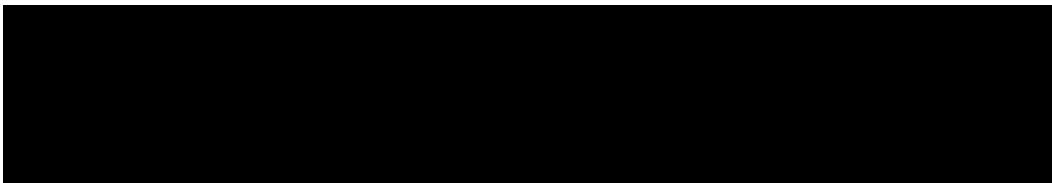
Advocating

Continuing to work with BBC Scotland and Radio Scotland, speaking on behalf of people with PMLD, their families and carers. To advocate publicly on the benefits of 'low-arousal' care approaches, the promotion of a Human Rights approach, in order to promote well-being of people with PMLD, their families and carers.

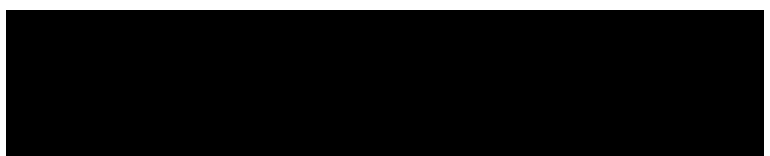
We also speak out on behalf of individuals and families, with their permission. We do this, building a body of experience.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name



Designation

Chair

Date

26th September 2025

Aiteal Trust

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Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	April	2024		31	March	2025

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	4,324	1,000			5,324	5,822
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
					-	
A1 Sub total	4,324	1,000	-	-	5,324	5,822
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,324	1,000	-	-	5,324	5,822
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	401				401	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	4,815	634			5,449	1,896
Grants and donations					-	1,000
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	
					-	
A3 Sub total	5,216	634	-	-	5,849	2,896
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,216	634	-	-	5,849	2,896
Net receipts / (payments)	(892)	366	-	-	526	2,926
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(892)	366	-	-	526	2,926

Section B Statement of balances

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	25,538				25,538	22,612
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	(892)	366			(526)	2,926
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	24,646	366	-	-	25,012	25,538
	(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	- 0	- 0	-	-	- 1,052	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Investments				
		Total	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available) to nearest £	Current value (if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B3 Other assets					
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B4 Liabilities				
		Total	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B5 Contingent liabilities				
		Total	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature*

Print Name

Date of
approval

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds *(may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)*

The Aiteal Trust supports people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) and autism, their families and carers. We run regular events at Appletree Community. We have helped fund some research into Developing a Community of Care.

C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Total			-

C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)



Authority under which paid

£

C3b Trustee remuneration - details

C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)



C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)

C6 Other information

Aiteal Trust

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Additional analysis (1)**Analysis of receipts and payments****1 Donations**

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Andrew Jardine	200				200	
Sheila Laxman		1,000			1,000	
Mike Horwood	94				94	
Elinor Dowson	30					
Dinning Trust	4,000				4,000	
Total	4,324	1,000	-	-	5,294	5,822
	reference	-	-	-	reference	-

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Total	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Event Catering	140				140	
Event Musician	45				45	
Iona Trip contribution	634				634	
Iona Trip payment for Louis & Carers		634			634	
Parliament Event parking & travel	58				58	
Parliament Event catering	775				775	
Flowers	20				20	
Event Pamiloo	143				143	
Film	3,000				3,000	
					-	
Total	4,815	634	-	-	5,449	1,896
	reference error	reference error	-	-	reference error	-

SC050669

Additional analysis (2)**5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds**

	Unrestricted fund 1 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below	Total unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations	4,324				4,324	4,822
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	4,324	-	-	-	4,324	4,822
-						
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,324	-	-	-	4,324	4,822
-						
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	401				401	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	4,815				4,815	1,896
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
					-	
					-	
Sub total	5,216	-	-	-	5,216	1,896
					cross ref error	
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,216	-	-	-	5,216	1,896
					cross ref error	
Net receipts / (payments)	(892)	-	-	-	(892)	2,926
Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(892)	-	-	-	(892)	2,926
					cross ref error	

Aiteal Trust

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Additional analysis (3)**6 Breakdown of restricted funds**

	Restricted fund 1 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below	Restricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below	Total restricted funds	Total restricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations					1,000	1,000
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
-						
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
-						
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities					634	
Grants and donations					-	1,000
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
					-	
					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	634	1,000
					cross ref error	
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
					-	
Total payments	-	-	-	-	634	1,000
					cross ref error	
Net receipts / (payments)	-	-	-	-	366	-
Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	-	-	-	-	366	-
					cross ref error	

APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts						v2
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	Aiteal Trust						
	Registered charity number	SC050669						
	On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date		
		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	April	2024	to	31	Mar	2025	
Set out on pages							(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.							
Basis of independent examiner's statement	My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.							
Independent examiner's statement	In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention.							
	1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 							
	have not been met, or							
Signed:					Date:	12/09/2025		
Name:								
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Institute of Chartered Accounts for England & Wales; Chartered Institute of Taxation.							
Address:								

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose